AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On pages 18-19, please replace the paragraph starting with "The recombinant" and ending with "electrophoresis" with the following amended paragraph:

The recombinant protein was purified as described (Schumpp-Vonach, Cytotechnology 1995; 17: 133-41) with some modifications. For purification, immunoaffinity chromatography was used. The anti-GPIb-mAb 12G1 was coupled to CNBr-activated ~~Sepharose~~SEPHAROSE® 4B (affinity purification beads provided by Pharmacia Biotech, Uppsala, Sweden) according to the manufacturer's instructions. Before loading on the column, the pooled supernatant harvested from the miniPERM bioreactor was concentrated 5 times using a CH_2PR Concentrator S_1Y_3 (Amicon, USA). The column was washed with TBS, 0.3 mM CHAPS (Boehringer Mannheim) and bound proteins were eluted with 0.1 M glycine-HCI pH 2.8. The pH of the eluted fractions was neutralized immediately by the addition of 1M Tris-HCI pH 9. The fractions containing the rGPIbα fragment were identified in a sandwich ELISA (cr. infra). Peak fractions were pooled, the concentration of the rGPIbα fragment (His1-Val289) was determined using the Bradford kit (Biorad, Hercules, USA) with bovine serum albumin as a standard and the pooled fractions were stored at-80°C until further use. Purity of the recombinant fragment in the pooled eluted fraction was evaluated by SDS-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis.